

Bay Area Air Quality Management District
375 Beale Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, California 94105
(415) 749-5073

Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee Meeting
Thursday, July 7, 2022

APPROVED MINUTES

*Note: Audio recordings of the meeting are available on the website of the
Bay Area Air Quality Management District at
www.baaqmd.gov/bodagendas*

This meeting was conducted under procedures authorized by Assembly Bill 361. Members of the Committee participated by teleconference.

1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee (Committee) Co-Chairperson, Davina Hurt, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Chairperson Davina Hurt; Vice Chairperson Tyrone Jue; and Directors Margaret Abe-Koga, John Gioia, David Haubert, Sergio Lopez, Nate Miley, and Steve Young.

Absent: Director Pauline Russo Cutter.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC MEETING PROCEDURE

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 2, 2022

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

Director Young made a motion, seconded by Director Abe-Koga, to **approve** the Minutes of June 2, 2022; and the motion carried by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Abe-Koga, Gioia, Haubert, Hurt, Jue, Lopez, Miley, Young.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Cutter.

5. COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Chair Hurt introduced a member of the Air District’s Community Advisory Council, Kevin G. Ruano Hernandez. A first-generation college student and environmental justice organizer in Richmond, Mr. Ruano Hernandez spoke about his participation in the Richmond Progressive Alliance, and the Alliance’s Listening Project, which aims to amplify the voices of frontline communities.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed the desire to see the Community Advisory Committee offer suggestions to the Board of Directors regarding best practices for communicating with the public; the State’s definition of “impacted community” per the Community Air Protection Program (Assembly Bill 617), and which Bay Area communities are candidates for this program; and what encouraged Mr. Ruano Hernandez to pursue his interest in air quality.

Committee Action

None; receive and file.

6. EFFICACY OF IN-ROOM AIR CLEANERS DURING WILDFIRE SMOKE

Dr. Judy Cutino, Health Officer, introduced Dr. Wanyu Rengie Chan, of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory’s Indoor Environment Group, who gave the presentation *Efficacy of In-Room Air Cleaners During Wildfire Smoke*, including: in-room air cleaners; new guidance and resources on performance; do-it-yourself box fan effectiveness and safety; US Environmental Protection Agency Office of Research and Development work in progress – do-it-yourself laboratory effectiveness; field study in 7 Washington (state) homes; *Health Benefits and Costs of Filtration Interventions That Reduce Indoor Exposure to Particulate Matter 2.5 During Wildfires* (Fisk & Chan); 2003 Southern California wildfires; filtration interventions; key findings; does the use of indoor air cleaners protect against adverse health impacts from exposure to outdoor air pollution; and improving indoor air quality using in-room cleaners during wildfire smoke.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed whether in-room air cleaners protect against emissions from refinery flaring; effective ways of communicating to the public how and why to buy high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters; how experts concluded that the Minimum Efficiency Reporting Values (MERV) rating of 13 was the most protective standard (versus a different rating); and the request for information from this presentation that can be circulated among Board members' jurisdictional newsletters.

Committee Action

None; receive and file.

7. AUTHORIZATION TO USE CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD (CARB) SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENT PROJECT (SEP) FUNDS AND \$1 MILLION WILDFIRE MITIGATION DESIGNATED RESERVES FOR SCHOOL AND HOME AIR FILTRATION PROGRAMS

Veronica Eady, Senior Deputy Executive Officer of Policy & Equity, introduced Joshua Abraham, Acting Assistant Community Engagement Manager, who gave the staff presentation *Authorization to Use CARB SEP Funds and \$1,000,000 Wildfire Mitigation Designated Reserves for School and Home Air Filtration Programs*, including: requested action; background and program scope; impact; consultation with environmental justice leaders and partners; existing programs; proposal; local health centers and community partners; next steps; and requested action.

Public Comments

Public comments were given by Michael Kent, Contra Costa County Health Services.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed the process of connecting potential applicants/clients with existing programs; how schools in Richmond were selected for the proposed action; and how the Air District tracks outreach decides which communities should be prioritized.

Committee Action

Director Gioia made a motion, seconded by Director Lopez, to recommend the Board take the following action:

Authorize the Interim Executive Officer/ APCO to allocate CARB Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) funds and amend the Community Engagement Division Budget by \$1 million using

the Wildfire Mitigation Designation Reserves. These combined funding sources will be used in the following ways:

1. Use of \$231,000 for the purchase of air filters and replacement filters for low-income clients of state Asthma Mitigation Partners with asthma or other respiratory disease
2. Execution of a \$69,000 professional services contract with Regional Asthma Management Prevention (RAMP) (a project of the Public Health Institute)
3. Execution of contract amendment with IQAir to use remaining \$97,603.29 of CARB SEP funds and \$294,600.95 of Wildfire Mitigation Designation Reserves for installation of air filtration and 5-year maintenance for four elementary schools in the Richmond - San Pablo area
4. Use \$300,000 to purchase air filtration units and replacement filters for federally qualified health centers to distribute to low-income clients with asthma or other respiratory disease in Assembly Bill (AB) 617 communities
5. Use \$100,000 to purchase air filtration units and replacement filters for AB 617 communities and outdoor workers recruited by James Cary Smith Community Grantees and other community-based organizations

The motion **carried** by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Abe-Koga, Gioia, Hurt, Jue, Lopez, Miley.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Cutter, Haubert, Young.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS

Public comments were read (via email) from Kristel Rietesel.

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

10. REPORT OF THE SENIOR DEPUTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF POLICY & EQUITY

Ms. Eady reported the following:

- Sharon Landers, Interim Executive Officer/Air Pollution Control Officer, is taking time off due to medical reasons.
- The presence of Ms. Landers, Chair Hurt, and Board Chair Bauters at the June 30 Community Advisory Council meeting was much appreciated.
- Membership of the East Oakland Community Emissions Reduction Plan Steering Committee is being developed. This body will not be subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act.

11. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

At the end of the meeting, the date of the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, September 1, 2022. After the meeting adjourned, the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 2022, at 9:30 a.m., via webcast, teleconference, or Zoom, pursuant to procedures in accordance with Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas 2021).

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

/s/ Marcy Hiratzka
Marcy Hiratzka
Clerk of the Boards